

**MINUTES**  
**TALBOT COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**  
**4 June 2012**

**I. ROLL CALL**

The regular monthly meeting of the Talbot County Historic Preservation Commission was called to order at 3:05 PM on Monday, 4 June 2012. Those members in attendance were Mr. Ward Bucher, Chairperson; Mrs. Marsha Kacher, Ms. Alice Marie Gravely, Mr. Robert Amdur, Ms. Peggy Pickall and Mr. Ron B. Mitchell. Representing the County was Ms. Florence Ball, and Mr. Martin Sokolich joined the meeting in progress. Also attending was Bruce Armistead, Esquire.

**II. CURRENT BUSINESS**

- A. REVIEW MINUTES OF 7 May 2012 TCHPC MEETING – The minutes of the last meeting were read. A motion was made by Mrs. Marsha Kacher to approve the minutes as read. Ms. Alice Marie Gravely seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.
- B. LETTER FOR SAMPLE SURVEY – Mr. Robert Amdur's draft of the letter for the sample survey was read, and after some corrections and other revisions were suggested, the Commissioners decided the letter could be used. Final editing will be done among the Commissioners by email until the letter in its final form is agreeable to all. Mr. Ward Bucher called for a motion:

*MOTION: Ms. Peggy Pickall moved to send out the letter, once its final form is approved. The motion was seconded by Ms. Alice Marie Gravely and unanimously carried.*

- C. UPDATE ON POTENTIAL HISTORIC OVERLAY DISTRICTS: BELMONT (T-131), JAMAICA POINT (T-63), CHERRY GROVE (T-308), INGLESIDE (T-313) - Mr. Bruce Armistead said he was attending on behalf of the owners of Jamaica Point. He had noticed the property mentioned on the TCHPC agenda and wanted to find out why it was mentioned along with the other nearby properties. Mr. Ward Bucher explained that Mr. Michael Bourne had been in contact with Mr. Martin Sokolich regarding the possibility of obtaining an Talbot County Historic District Overlay (HDO) to include the four historic properties. Mr. Ward Bucher inquired whether there was further word from Mr. Michael Bourne regarding the possibility of the owners of these four historic properties applying for an Historic District Overlay (HDO). Ms. Florence Ball replied that to date, to her best knowledge, there has been no further word from Mr. Bourne. Mr. Ward Bucher briefly explained the various aspects and benefits of Historic District Overlays to Mr. Armistead.
- D. TRAINING SESSIONS FOR TCHPC COMMISSIONERS, AND EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS – Mrs. Marsha Kacher said plans for her and Ms. Alice Marie Gravely to attend the July National Alliance of Preservation Commissions forum in Norfolk, VA have been thwarted due to an inability to book a local room. She said the nearest available rooms were across the river in Portsmouth, and only accessible by boat.

She added that one of the main events is already overbooked. The Commissioners were again reminded that getting an education credit for each commissioner is required to maintain CLG status and that the group will need to find other events to fulfill that requirement. Ms. Peggy Pickall said there may be some events in Annapolis or Baltimore. Also mentioned as a possibility were the online educational programs offered by the Maryland Association of Historic District Commissions. Some of the Commissioners who are not very computer-oriented were apprehensive about attempting the online training.

- E. STATUS UPDATE ON THE MILLERS HOUSE (T-70) – Mr. Ron Mitchell reported that MHT decided that only easements on archaeology, and not construction, were worth obtaining due to too much loss of original historic fabric. Therefore, the property will have an archaeological overlay. An archaeologist must be present when any excavating is done. As such, as outlined in the Secretary of the Interior Standards, a Federal Section 106 application is required, which Mr. Ward Bucher said he filed electronically a week ago. Unfortunately, he got a message that electronic filings are not accepted, so he must mail a hard copy of the application. Mr. Ron Mitchell said meanwhile, other work not requiring excavation will be done.

### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. DISCUSSION OF SITE VISIT TO DONCASTER (T-178) AND THE SITE VISIT FOR JUNE – Mr. Ward Bucher said he is finalizing his report on the site visit to Doncaster. He reported that there were no problems found other than some chipped paint. The Commissioners commented on the splendid condition of the classic Italianate House.

Mr. Robert Amdur said he has scheduled a visit to Pleasant Valley (T-84) for Monday, 11 June 2012. Those Commissioners attending are to meet at the Acme parking lot in Easton at 2:30 pm.

### **IV. OPEN FLOOR**

- A. TCHPC BUDGET AND MEMBERSHIP STATUS– Mr. Ward Bucher read aloud the letter he received from the County Council stating that the TCHPC budget has been reduced to \$500.00. He wondered if there is enough money in the TCHPC budget to mail out the survey letters. Mr. Martin Sokolich said he could mail out part of the list. He advised that there are approximately 300 addresses on the working mail list. Ms. Alice Marie Gravely asked if TCHPC has any additional literature to include with the letter. Mr. Martin Sokolich said he could print enough brochures to include in the mailing. He will check to see what the postage will cost, and will try to take it out of this year's budget.

Mr. Ward Bucher said his tenure is up in July. He was advised that he must write a letter to the County Council stating whether he wishes reappointment or wants to resign. The Commissioners urged him to continue as a Commissioner. At the time, he said he was undecided.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, 2 July 2012, at 3:00 pm in Conference Room One of the Talbot County Office Building at 215 Bay Street in Easton.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 4:00 pm.

8 June 2012